

Town of Apex, North Carolina

PROCLAMATION

From the Office of the Mayor

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS, every day, more than 100 Americans are killed by gun violence, alongside more than 230 who are shot and wounded, and on average there are more than 13,000 - gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina has an average of 1,388 - gun deaths every year, with a rate of 13.3 deaths per 100,000 people. North Carolina has the 23rd highest rate of gun deaths in the US; and

WHEREAS, cities across the nation, including in Apex, are working to end the senseless violence with evidence-based solutions; and

WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is mayors' highest responsibility; and

WHEREAS, gun violence prevention is more important than ever as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to exacerbate gun violence after more than a year of increased gun sales, increased calls to suicide and domestic violence hotlines, and an increase in city gun violence;

WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at age 15; and on June 3, 2022 to recognize the 24th birthday of Hadiya Pendleton (born: June 2, 1997), people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to - (1) Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence; and (2) the loved ones of those victims

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JACQUES GILBERT, MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF APEX, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM that the first Friday in June, June 3, 2022, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day. I encourage all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Apex, North Carolina to be affixed this the 24th day of May 2022.

Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor